

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the detailed examination evidenced by the Final Official Action mailed April 27, 2007 (hereinafter "the Final Official Action"). Applicants also appreciate the continued indication that Claims 5, 7-9, 11, 13, 15, and 17 include patentable subject matter.

In response Applicants have amended the Application as follows:

Allowable Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form and dependent Claims 2 and 3 have been rewritten to depend from now independent Claim 5, thereby placing Claims 2, 3, and 5 in condition for allowance.

Allowable Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form. Furthermore, dependent Claims 8, 10, and 12 have been rewritten to depend, either directly or indirectly, from allowable Claim 7, thereby placing Claims 7 - 12 in condition for allowance.

Allowable Claim 13 has been rewritten in independent form, thereby placing this claim in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 14 has been rewritten to include the recitations of allowable claim 15 thereby placing claims 14, 16, and 17 in condition for allowance.

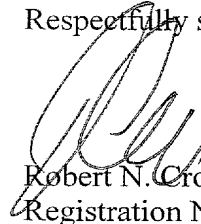
All remaining rejected claims have been canceled.¹

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections have been overcome by clear and proper amendments to the pending claims, thereby placing this Application in condition for allowance which is respectfully requested in due course. If any informal matters arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone at (919) 854-1400.

¹ Applicants note that the cancellation of the rejected claims is not an admission that any of the subject matter of the present application is un-patentable over the prior art.

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Respectfully submitted,




Robert N. Crouse
Registration No. 44,635

USPTO Customer No. 54414
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone: 919/854-1400
Facsimile: 919/854-1401

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Sheena Donnelly